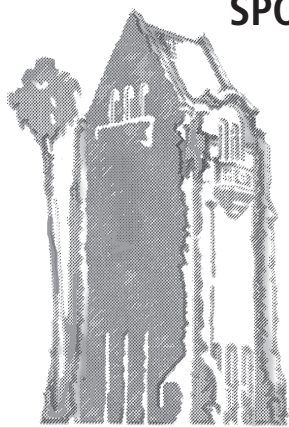




SPARTANS LET
ONE SLIP AWAY
HAWAII WARRIORS OVERCOME
A 14-POINT DEFICIT TO
PULL OUT A VICTORY
SPORTS // PAGE 3



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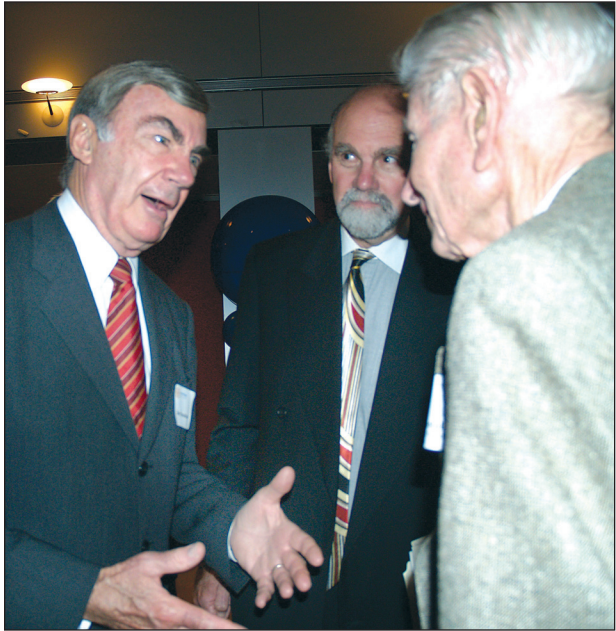
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OCTOBER 15, 2007 // MONDAY

Sam Donaldson (left) speaks with Dwight Bentel (right), the founder of SJSU's school of journalism, and Bill Briggs (center), the director of SJSU's school of journalism and mass communications, at the reception preceding Friday night's alumni reunion dinner.



JAMES JEFFREY // Special to the Daily

Network anchor visits campus

Newsman marks 50 years of journalism at SJSU

STAFF REPORT

Former White House correspondent Sam Donaldson was the guest speaker for radio and television journalism's 50th anniversary celebration Friday.

An anchor on the ABC network for more than 37 years, covering Washington for 46, Donaldson offered advice to aspiring journalists during a news conference prior to deliver-

ing his keynote address.

"If you want to succeed anywhere you need to out-work everyone," Donaldson said, explaining his years of missing out on social activities while he took Saturday deadline stories.

Jessica Drnek, a senior broadcast journalism major and event planner of the 50th anniversary reunion, said Donaldson was really candid about what he thinks is important as a young journalist, and told her something

she'd never heard before.

"He said if you get offered a job on CNN tomorrow you should turn it down because you need to learn and make mistakes in a smaller market," Drnek said.

He told her that it is easier to learn and grow from mistakes in a smaller market than a large one where more people are watching.

"I thought it was an interesting perspec-

See **RTVJ**, page 2

Governor vetoes executive pay bill

By MITCHELL ALAN PARKER

Managing Editor

A bill aimed at limiting benefits given to outgoing California State University executives and restricting transition pay to "actual duties performed" was vetoed Friday by Gov. Schwarzenegger.

The veto was met with both dissatisfaction and relief.

"We're glad that the governor vetoed it," said CSU spokesman Paul Browning. "We felt it was poorly written."

Assembly bill 1413 would have also allowed ex-officio staff mem-

bers to attend board meetings in their stead, Browning said, something that he felt would hinder the meetings.

"They couldn't even vote," he said. "It would have been very disruptive."

As the Spartan Daily reported last week, the California Faculty Association was one organization that had been in support of the Assembly bill.

"It was a tremendous disappointment," said Jonathan Karpf, a CFA representative and anthro-

See **BILL**, page 2

Journalism department receives surprise donation

By SARA SPIVEY

Executive Editor

The school of journalism and mass communications received a \$300,000 donation on Friday from the estate of Dorothy M. Oppenheim, said Bill Briggs, director of the school of journalism and mass communications.

Oppenheim died several months ago and left the remainder of her estate to the school of journalism and mass communications. Her connection to San Jose State University and the school could not be immediately verified.

"She had always sort of admired journalism," Briggs said he was told by University Advancement. "She knew we had a good department."

Briggs announced the donation on Friday during the radio and television journalism's anniversary and reunion dinner.

"It was wonderful I was able to announce it," Briggs said. "It was a happy thing to say."

San Jose State University received another \$300,000 donation last week, from DreamWorks SKG CEO Jeffrey Katzenberg to the animation/illustration program.

"I said, 'It'd sure be nice if we had something like that,'" Briggs said.

He said he was pleasantly surprised to receive a call later in the day alerting him that the school had received a similar donation.

This is the second donation this year given to the school of journalism and mass communications.



JAMES JEFFREY // Special to the Daily

Scott Lafler (right), a senior illustration and animation major, discusses his work with Jeffrey Katzenberg (left), CEO of DreamWorks SKG, during his surprise visit to several art classes on Thursday.

CEO donates to art program

DreamWorks executive gives \$300,000

By JOVANNI COLISAO

Staff Writer

Jeffrey Katzenberg, chief executive officer of DreamWorks SKG, made a surprise announcement Thursday afternoon: he will contribute \$300,000 to SJSU's animation/illustration program.

Katzenberg made the announcement during an event with students and faculty members moderated by President Don Kassing.

"It's a wonderful help," Kassing said. "It reflects on how an industry will spot universities that have strong academic departments in areas where they need talent and we have that here in our animation department."

After the announcement of the donation,

co-coordinators of the animation/illustration program Professors Alice Carter and Courtney Granner said the money will come as a relief.

"The program has been struggling," Granner said. "\$300,000 from Katzenberg and DreamWorks SKG is going to be a big boost for the program. It will be the very first time that they have ever done anything like this for an educational institution."

Near the end of his question-and-answer session, Katzenberg offered some encouraging words to students in the program.

"You already see what you can do right here on this campus," Katzenberg said. "You

See **CEO**, page 2



JAMES JEFFREY // Special to the Daily

Jeffrey Katzenberg, CEO of DreamWorks SKG, signs a poster of "Bee Movie," a film produced by his studio, for Alice Carter's art class.

Scholarship kicks off with star performance

By MEGAN WOOD

Staff Writer

Musical theatre icon Carol Channing is scheduled to perform tonight in the Morris Dailey Auditorium to establish the Carol Channing and Harry Kullijian scholarship of performing arts for the College of Humanities and the Arts.

Channing is best known for her title role in the original cast

of "Hello Dolly!" on Broadway for which she won a Tony award, as well as her role as Muzzy in the film version of "Thoroughly Modern Millie," for which she won a Golden Globe.

"She is giving a concert where she personally is not making money and the idea that she and her husband Harry Kullijian had was to promote arts education," said Stewart Slater, who organized the event with SJSU and is cofounder

of CooksonSlater, a consulting firm for both profit and nonprofit organizations.

Slater said that Channing and Kullijian will also tour all of the CSU schools and will donate scholarship money to each of the departments for humanities and the arts.

"It is a monetary scholarship and it hasn't yet been decided how the money will be split or how many scholarships will be made

out of the donation," Slater said.

"This is amazingly generous of her, it's very rare that we are able to tag a name onto a project for someone that is doing something that is so substantial for students," said Ryan Brady, a senior majoring in theatre arts. "It's really a testament to her generosity and her character."

Kyle Swany, a senior majoring

See **ARTS**, page 2

ONLINE

EXCLUSIVELY ONLINE: BOOK DISCUSSION

SJSU alumnae and author of "The Farmworker's Daughter" discussed her life journey and new book at an event last Thursday.

PAGE 2

STUDENT LIFE

THE BENEFITS OF STUDYING ABROAD

Study abroad students talk about the advantages of studying in England and how the experience changed their lives.

PAGE 4

OPINION

BAND ASKS FANS TO SET THE PRICE

Radiohead offers its new album online for whatever price a fan wants to pay. Sound cool? Turn to page 5 and read more.

PAGE 5

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SPARTA GUIDE

Write letters to the editor and submit Sparta Guide information online. Visit our Web site at www.thespartandaily.com. You may also submit information in writing to DBH 209.

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff members. The deadline for entries is noon three working days before the desired publication date. Space restrictions may require editing of submission. Entries are printed in order in which they are received.

TODAY

Road Trip Nation: Voice of SJSU

From 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Mosaic Lounge. Presented by the Mosaic Cross Cultural Center. For more information, contact Hyon Chu 924-6245.

CEO // Student now has job at DreamWorks

Continued from page 1

guys can make stories. You can tell films. All of you can absolutely make a great movie.”

Scott Laffer, a senior animation/illustration major, said he was inspired by Katzenberg’s speech.

“I thought it was an excellent opportunity for us to really be encouraged,” Laffer said.

Granner said that he hopes the program’s students and faculty members will maintain a close relationship with DreamWorks SKG because of the talent it has.

He said, “\$300,000 will help us train our students to really reach the top of the pyramid of talent.”

Tim Heitz, a graduate of SJSU’s anima-

tion/illustration program who now works at DreamWorks, said the program is heading in the right direction and that the donation will propel it further.

“Anything to bring more attention to the animation/illustration is a good thing,” Heitz said of the donation. “This program already has an awesome heart and it’s got the right students and the right inspiration.”

Heitz said converting from SJSU to working at PDI/DreamWorks in Redwood City has been a dream.

“It’s been an awesome experience,” Heitz said. “It has not been a hard transition to make. From the school life to the work life. I felt like I got good training here.”

The honor of having someone like Kat-

RTVJ // Donaldson criticizes Bush

Continued from page 1

tive,” Drnek said.

In taking student questions, Donaldson attempted to convey some of the tenets of his craft that led to success.

“It’s a dirty job, but somebody has to do it,” he said. “Anytime you don’t question power, you’re not doing your job. If you ask a question and you get anything but a direct answer, you know there’s a problem.”

Donaldson shared stories and personal experiences with the room, relating how much just one interview can resonate with a reporter.

When asked what his most memorable interview was, Donaldson said none other has topped one he had in Argentina in 1994.

Donaldson said he interviewed Erich Priebke, a captain in Germany’s Waffen-SS during WWII. Donaldson said he was able to capture on camera the former captain talking openly about his involvement in the massacre of 335 Italian civilians in Rome during the war. After the airing of the broadcast,

Priebke was arrested by Argentinean police and was eventually extradited to Rome where he remains in prison.

Donaldson went on to say that he still belongs to the “old media,” referring to his aggressive style.

But he sympathized with members of the current media covering the White House.

“This president viscerally, viscerally doesn’t like the press,” Donaldson said. “He really doesn’t feel he needs to answer questions.”

He spoke to a room full of student-journalists for just over half an hour, before migrating to the Engineering Building for his keynote speech.

“Students who didn’t even know who he was weeks ago were standing in line to get his autograph and engage with him,” said Bob Rucker, coordinator or the 50th anniversary and associate professor of journalism and mass communications.

Rucker said he enjoyed seeing people come to appreciate “a man who walked in history.”

During the speech Donaldson fielded questions geared more toward current political issues.

“I think no matter who’s elected they will withdraw from Iraq,” Donaldson said when asked about the 2008 presidential candidates. “It’s easy to get into war. As you see today, it’s hard to get out of war. It’s going to end either badly or horribly.”

Forrest Williams, city councilman for San Jose, presented Donaldson with a commendation on behalf of the city of San Jose recognizing SJSU’s radio and television journalism sequence for its 50 years of contributions.

“It was kind of a birthday gift,” said Bill Briggs, director for the school of journalism and mass communications, which also received a commendation by the city.

After the meet-and-greet had ended, Donaldson stood on the steps of the auditorium stage for several minutes with lingering students crowded around him as he continued to discuss problems with today’s media coverage and issues with health care.

“He was super gracious, unbelievably personable, shockingly friendly and genuinely interested in people around him, and very, very smart,” said Drnek, event planner of the 50th anniversary.

BILL // Governor signs Senate Bill 190

Continued from page 1

pology lecturer. “The chancellor and board of trustees were able to exert enough pressure on the governor for him to veto it.”

On Friday, Lillian Taiz, president of the California Faculty Association and professor of history at CSU Los Angeles, sent out a news release in reaction to the governor’s decision.

“The Governor’s veto of AB 1413 sends the public the message that he is content with a CSU Administration which operates in secrecy and wastes millions of taxpayer dollars on executive pay while the student experience deteriorates,” Taiz said.

Also in the news release Anthony Portantino, author of the bill and chair of the Assembly Committee on Higher Education, said, “As a strong advocate of higher education, I am extremely disappointed with this veto.”

CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed said in a news release that he was “pleased” with the governor’s veto and that the bill was an effort to implement policies that he said were adopted by the CSU last year, rendering AB 1413 “redundant and unnecessary.”

Apart from the veto on Friday the governor signed Senate bill 190. The bill will require any meeting held by the regents of the University of California and the CSU board of trustees, including meetings discussing executive compensation and raises, be discussed in an open forum with opportunities for the public to comment.

“I was glad it passed and I think it’s disingenuous for the governor to say AB 1413 wasn’t necessary,” Karpf said.

Browning said that the CSU had taken no side on SB 190 and that it had “no problems” with the bill.

“The CFA is going to continue to work on behalf of the entire institution of the CSU to reclaim it,” Karpf said.

ARTS // Channing scheduled to perform tonight

Continued from page 1

in these programs, so to have this chance to receive this is a great opportunity for the students.”

According to Slater, Channing and her husband are both interested in reinfusing arts into the educational system so that students who want to get an art education will have the ability to do so.

“It’s a personal mission that Carol and Harry have to get the arts back into the schools in California,” Slater said. “Carol and her husband both came out of art backgrounds, Carol majored in theatre and dance and I think they are interested in getting back to an area where they have some capacity.”

Sarah Adams, a senior majoring in theatre arts, said she admires Channing’s talent on the stage.

“She’s got that sexy, raspy, unique voice and a very unique look,” Adams said. “She’s a staple in musical theatre. She’s not classically beautiful, she’s very Barbara Streisand-esque and these women have made their mark and stayed in show business well into older age.”

Carol is slated to perform a collection of songs from her movies and shows and talk to the audience about her adventures as a performer.

“It is essentially a conversation with Carol, she’s singing some songs that are important to her and talking to the audience about those experiences that she had in those many years on Broadway,” Slater said, adding that “Carol is somebody that is an old style Broadway star. They don’t make them like that anymore and there’s so few of them still alive.”

Carol Channing is scheduled to perform at 7 p.m. tonight in the Morris Dailey auditorium. Tickets are \$10 for students and are available at the Event Center.



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SPARTANS DERAILED IN OVERTIME

No. 16 Hawaii overcomes 14-point defecit in 4th quarter to force extra period

By JOSH WEAVER
Football beat writer

In front of a national TV audience and 20,423 at Spartan Stadium, the SJSU football team battled the 16th-ranked University of Hawaii Warriors to a two-touchdown lead with just nine minutes left in the game.

"We thought we could win," Tomey said. "We had a chance to win. We just didn't get it done in the fourth quarter."

After a soggy, back-and-forth contest, the Warriors and quarterback Colt Brennan had the upper hand, defeating the Spartans 42-35.

"For what all we've been through this year, I think that was a tremendous effort," said SJSU head coach Dick Tomey.

Everything went the Spartans' way for three-and-a-half quarters, building a 14-point lead midway through the fourth quarter. But with a little more than seven minutes remaining in the game, the wheels fell off the SJSU upset wagon, and Hawaii killed the opportunity.

With the help of two 15-yard personal-foul penalties on the Spartan defense, Brennan led a 97-yard scoring drive capped by a Davone Bess touchdown catch with 3:53 left in the game which narrowed the Spartan lead to 35-28.

Moments later, with the Spartans attempting to run out the clock, running back James T. Callier fumbled, and Hawaii linebacker Adam Leonard fell on the loose ball.

The Warriors capitalized on the late turnover, scoring the tying touchdown on a Brennan quarterback keeper with 31 seconds left on the clock.

"I didn't play the best game, but at no point was I going to give up," Brennan said. "I knew that if I did what I was supposed to do at the end of the game when we had those opportunities, that we could win this game."

Hawaii had the first possession in overtime and scored the eventual game-winning touchdown on a Brennan completion to wide receiver Jason Rivers.

The Spartans effort to tie the game was thwarted when quarter-

back Adam Tafralis' pass was intercepted in the end zone by Hawaii cornerback Myron Newberry.

"It's a loss," Tafralis said. "It hurts me more than I can ever describe, but it's over and I can't change it."

The matchup showcased two potent offenses that accumulated a combined 945 yards, 122 pass attempts and 77 points.

Tafralis had his fourth straight 300 yard passing game, going 27-47 for 302 yards, two touchdowns and three interceptions.

Brennan, a Heisman Trophy candidate, attempted a Western Athletic Conference record 75 passes, completing 44 for 545 yards.

The nationally televised game began with a slight drizzle and saw the Warriors jump out to an early 7-0 first quarter lead.

Hawaii extended their lead with 8:23 remaining in the second quarter when Brennan connected with receiver Ryan Grice-Mullen for a 16-yard touchdown.

Grice-Mullen had 14 catches for 175 yards and the one score on the night. Rivers and Bess had 12 receptions apiece for 138 yards and 140 yards receiving respectively.

With the offense struggling, the Spartans needed a spark. They got it from their All-American cornerback Dwight Lowery.

With less than two minutes remaining in the first half, Lowery secured a punt, cut to the left sideline and scampered 84 yards for the score, cutting the deficit to seven.

On the opening offensive play of the second half Lowery struck again, intercepting a Brennan pass and returning it 24 yards for the score, tying the game at 14.

"Dwight single-handedly brought this team back in the game," Tafralis said.

The Spartan defense, which has been stingy all year, intercepted Brennan four times, including two by safety Andrew Ryan.

"We have a great secondary," Ryan said. "It doesn't matter who's throwing the ball."

The offense found a groove in the third quarter as Tafralis and receiver Kevin Jurovich connected for two touchdowns.

The first score came on a leap-



PHOTOS BY ANDREW VILLA // SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

ABOVE: Spartan receiver David Richmond battles Hawaii cornerback Myron Newberry for an Adam Tafralis pass in the end zone during overtime. Newberry ended up intercepting the pass and sealing the Warriors' victory. BELOW LEFT: Sophomore lineman Ronnie Castillo looks on following Friday's overtime loss. BELOW RIGHT: A Hawaii fan looks on following an SJSU touchdown.

ing 16-yard catch by Jurovich, who came down just inside the front right pylon. The play was reviewed, but upheld and the Spartans led 21-14.

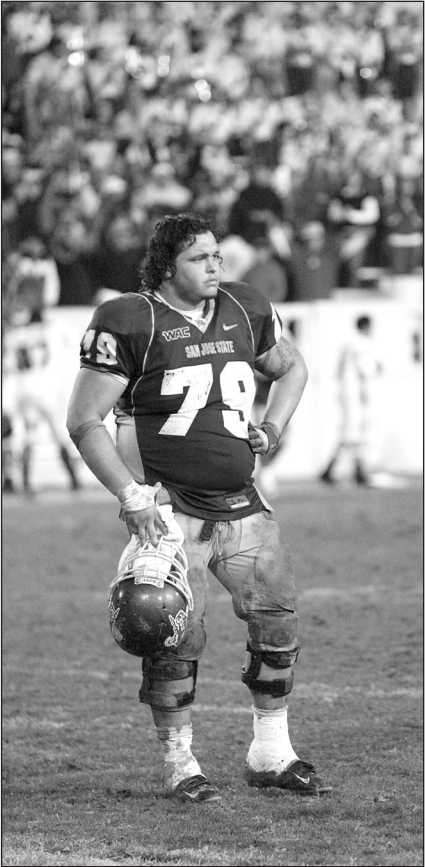
Three minutes later Tafralis unleashed a deep pass down the middle finding Jurovich in stride out running two defenders for a 68-yard touchdown.

Jurovich had more than 100 yards receiving for the third straight game, hauling in seven catches for 117 yards.

"I don't really get too concerned with my individual stats," Jurovich said. "I obviously didn't do enough. ... We have to learn how to win and play with a lead."

The Spartans would tack on one more touchdown on a Callier eight-yard run early in the fourth quarter giving the Spartans a 35-21 lead, a lead that in the end wasn't large enough.

"We had a great shot but we didn't finish. You've got to finish," Tomey said.



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By BRIANA HERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

The vinyl record. The 8-track. The cassette tape. The compact disk. The MP3. Throughout my father's lifetime, the mass production of music underwent these changes. The most current, however, has rocked the recording industry as a whole. With the development of downloadable music and the Napster debates, it might have been one of the first times that the business has dealt with not only flux in technology, but with the very principles of exchange.

People seem to forget the days of dual tape decks that, while with terrible quality, enabled you to borrow your friend's new Violent Femmes tape and make your own copy.

Yet piracy has always been the machination of the consumer. No one has ever given us a free lunch because, according to my high school economy teacher, there is no such thing.

Oh?
Tell that to Radiohead. On Oct. 10, the band released their latest album online only, with the option to set your own

price. Because Radiohead is currently between labels, the tangible album, "In Rainbows," is set to release in December as a box set, this time with a fixed price.

Why would a band do that?
First, they can afford it. Whatever expenses they incurred while producing this album may have been all out of pocket without the aid of a label, and I doubt it is putting much of a dent in their wallets.

Second, with the way artists make profit in the industry, Radiohead may make more money on this album than

Ultimately, if record companies go down, the public relations department is onboard that sinking ship.

any other. From the \$15 you dish out for an album, your favorite band may only see 40 cents of it.

Unfortunately, that will be hard to determine since record sales aren't calculated in this fashion. A record's success is based on the number of albums sold, not

the overall profit.

In one fell swoop, an artist has cut out the middle man by making their own record and mass releasing it via the Internet. The question now is: Does this not render the recording industry obsolete?

While a band of this stature can afford to give away electronic copies of their album, there aren't many who can.

The expenses involved in making a record — hiring a producer, paying a sound engineer and studio fees — do not stop after the record is actually done. Public relation firms that seek out music media to promote and sell the album are also part of the circus and are a vital component in gaining profit.

For example, if an indie band was to pursue a similar endeavor to Radiohead's, the finished product would be sub par and awareness about the release would be next to nil.

The real money is in touring and merchandise, yet both usually come from recognition after an album is dropped and promoted.

Ultimately, if record companies go down, the public relations department is onboard that sinking ship.

We live, however, in the world of

MySpace, a mass communications vehicle that plenty of bands have already embraced.

Combine this new opportunity to self-promote with this new model of selling your record for dirt cheap online, and the crumble of fat cat labels such as Geffen and Capitol may be a distant inevitability.

Personally, I am concerned over the possible death of the compact disk, although the fact that vinyl is still around encourages me. Something about being a collector makes the tangible record fundamental. The institution of selling a product package has deep roots in the music world.

Even as the formats change, a product is born of that change. A recent release of Bob Marley's greatest hits was produced in Zip drive format, complete with artwork and packaging.

In all, Radiohead's selling model is provocative, but only time will tell if this first tiny step will echo throughout time or get buried by the corporate machine. Rest assured, that machine won't go down without a fight.

Guest columns will appear on Tuesday and Wednesday this week also.

Comments from our readers

'Roiding up has negative affect on life, integrity

On "Steroids back in the news: Should an athlete be denied the right to compete if he or she tests positive?"

I don't see the problem. Athletes who choose to use steroids make that decision and are willing to take that risk to become a better player; good for them.

Anyone who says cheating (whether it's school or sports or anything) is bad and they don't do it — is probably lying.

Everyone cheats in one way or another. Who cares ... let it be. Get over it.

-John Lee

Steroids were not a contributing factor to Benoit's actions. Repeated blows to the head were along with just poor reasoning.
-Chad

EDITORIAL BY THE WASHINGTON POST

Gore wins a Nobel; Global warming still under fire by Bush

For former Vice President Al Gore, sharing the Nobel Peace Prize with the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is vindication. He was green when green wasn't cool. For more than 20 years, Gore persisted in the face of intense skepticism and criticism with his warnings about the impact of global warming on the planet.

"He is probably the single individual who has done most to create greater worldwide understanding of the measures that need to be adopted," the Nobel committee wrote.

His movie, "An Inconvenient Truth," about the effects of climate change, was a box-office hit and an Oscar winner. That achievement is impressive and important, notwithstanding factual misstatements and exaggerations such as the "nine significant errors" in

The Nobel committee chairman said ... the prize was not mean to be a "kick in the leg to anyone."

the film cited by a British judge Wednesday. By also awarding the prize to the IPCC, the Nobel committee bolstered the more solid scientific assessments of the U.N.-sponsored organization, which served to strengthen Gore's message about the dangers of global warming while moderating some of his more questionable assertions.

The Nobel committee chairman said that awarding the prize to Gore and the IPCC was not meant to be "a kick in the leg to anyone." The White House said it didn't see it that way, either. But these denials are hard to take seriously from a group that has handed the

peace prize to adversaries of President Bush in several recent years. Bush said, through a spokesperson, that he was "happy" for Gore. But there was no congratulatory phone call, and commentary around the world, particularly in Europe, took delight in a yet another perceived rebuff to the unpopular president.

When it comes to global warming, the ire is warranted. Bush's inaction on climate change is one of the major failings of his presidency. He squandered nearly seven years by questioning the science of global warming and undermining efforts to do anything substantive about it.

His recent efforts to demonstrate leadership — from finally recognizing global warming as real to hosting a climate summit with the major emitters of greenhouse gases — are undermined by his insistence that nations pursue voluntary "aspirational goals" to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. This is not the kind of leadership the world is looking for.

Fortunately, Congress is beginning to consider climate-change legislation. Support is growing for putting a price on carbon through a cap-and-trade system with mandatory emission-reduction targets. Sens. Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., and John Warner, R-Va., will introduce their climate bill next week. Bush could and should be an active and productive participant in the debate to follow.

This is the stuff of legacy: He has the chance to transcend any talk of besting or being bested by Gore if he helps put in place concrete solutions to the problems so dramatically outlined in "An Inconvenient Truth."

If the president continues to sit on the sidelines, not only the Nobel committee but history as well will judge him poorly.

This editorial appeared in Saturday's Washington Post.

Halloween: At what age does the school girl become sexy?



SARA SPIVEY

Off the Record

daily conversations, and in almost every publication I pick up, including the Spartan Daily, I see sales ads for costumes.

But something about most of the ads I see has been troubling me. The words "sexy," "adult," "lingerie," and "Playboy" seem to be plastered all over them. It is almost impossible to find a woman's costume that doesn't fit that theme.

Now don't get me wrong, I am a woman who desires to be sexy and attractive to my significant other. But I don't see the need to take my sexy butt and parade it around town for every strange pair of ogleing eyes to see.

I was discussing Halloween costumes with a single father who told me he was distraught that he had searched several local stores, but could not find a non-sexual costume for his pre-teen daughter.

He said he found only short skirts and bare midriffs.

"I don't want to send my daughter out looking like that," he said.

I finally understand why my mother insisted on sewing my Halloween costumes. And I thought my parents were just being cheap.

I don't believe sexuality is something that should be put on the bottom shelf in a brown paper bag, but what happens when we as a society put our sexuality so far out in the front that we cannot ever get away from it?

Try pole dancing classes and My First Stripper Pole kits for kids.

No, it's not a joke.

"The Daily Telegraph," an Australian newspaper, published a story Oct. 8 about "pole fitness classes" held in Sydney, Australia for children as

young as 7 years old. It's almost Halloween, my favorite holiday. I love everything about it — the costumes, the candy, the parties. Halloween costume ideas have been working their way into many of my

young as 7 years old.

In October of 2006, the No. 1 chain store in Britain, Tesco, was forced to remove a pole-dancing kit called "Peekaboo" from the toys and games section of its Web site after a family with young children began a campaign against the sale, according to an article published in London's "The Daily Mail."

There is a school of thought among modern feminists to reclaim words and things that have been used to objectify women. The word "bitch," for example, which women have begun to use in a positive light to counteract the more traditional negative connotation.

Or the stripper pole classes sensationalized on "Oprah" by none other than "Desperate Housewife" Terry Hatcher.

But when we're talking about children, we are not talking about stripping as an "art form" or as a way to stay in shape.

I finally understand why my mother insisted on sewing my Halloween costumes ... I thought my parents were just being cheap.

If a parent is concerned with their children's levels of fitness they should take them outside and play or run with them. They should sign them up for sports teams or martial arts, ballet or gymnastics classes.

They should not pack their children in the car and bring them along to the S Factor studio where Sheila Kelley will teach them the latest in stripaerobics.

When we allow children to be sexualized, we take away their ability to be carefree, happy children and begin to turn them into the sexy school girl — the thought of which makes me shudder.

Whether shopping for Halloween costumes or taking pole-dancing classes, women should think about the example we are setting for the girls of the younger generation.

Sara Spivey is the Spartan Daily executive editor. "Off the Record" appears Mondays.

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Only letters 200 words or less will be considered for publication.

Submissions become property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.

Submissions may be placed in the Letters to the Editor box at the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentel Hall, Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3282, e-mailed to spartandaily@casa.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San José State University, One Washington Square, San José, CA 95112-0149.

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Quote of the day

"Reports published by some media are totally baseless and are in line with the psychological war launched by enemies who want to harm Iran and Russia's relationship."

MOHAMMAD ALI HOSSEINI

An Iran ministry spokesman said about the reports that there is an assassination plot by Iran to murder Russian President Vladimir Putin.

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► Amy's no ugly betty.*

pwc.tv/ch2

The Firm now playing on Channel 2.

*connectedthinking